

REMARKS

In the Office action dated August 3, 2006, claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for failing to include a period at the end of the claim and claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as in U.S. Patent No. 6,668,133.

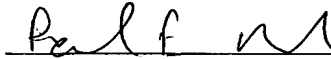
In this Reply, applicants have amended claims 1 and 2 and 18 and cancelled claims 4-17 and 19-20.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to add periods at the end of the claims.

With respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101, independent claims 1 and 18 have been amended to be different from the claims of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,668,133. For example, claims 1 and 18 both now recite compressed codes having indicator digits. Applicants' claim amendments are fully supported by the originally filed specification and do not introduce any new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 has been overcome.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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